

THE CULTURES OF WESTERN MEDICINE: A HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

HSHM 321b/HIST 233b/HSHM 631b

Yale University
Spring 2003

John Harley Warner
Time: MW 10:30-11:20
Discussion Sections TBA

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LECTURE AND DISCUSSION SECTION MEETINGS:

Week I

Jan. 13 Introduction
Jan. 15 Hippocratic Medicine
Jan. 17 Greek & Egyptian Medical Traditions in the Roman World
No Section Meetings

Week II

Jan. 22 The Black Death
Section What Is Disease?

Week III

Jan. 27 Medieval Medicine: The Arab-Islamic Transit of Knowledge
Jan. 29 The Renaissance of Anatomy
Section Ways of Medical Knowing: Body & Environment as Objects of Knowledge

Week IV

Feb. 3 Medical Theory, Practice, & Politics in the 17th Century
Feb. 5 The Search for Order in 18th-Century Medicine
Section Disease & the Public's Health: The Case of Smallpox

Week V

Feb. 10 The French Revolution in Medicine
Feb. 12 Open a Few Corpses: The Search for the Seat of Disease
Section Morbid Appearances: The Rise of Pathological Anatomy

Feb. 17 MIDTERM
Feb. 19 The Formation of the American Medical Profession
Section Library Tour

Week VII

Feb. 24 Alternative Medicine & Challenges to Orthodox Authority
Feb. 26 Sexuality & the Victorian Physician
Section Alternative Medicine & Alternative Cultures

Week VIII

Mar. 3 Dirt=Disease=Destitution: Industrial & Sanitary Revolutions
Mar. 5 Laboratory Medicine & the Origins of the Biomedical Model
Section Sanitary Science & the American Civil War

>>>**SPRING BREAK**<<<

Week IX

Mar. 24 Bacteriomania: Germ Theories of Disease
Mar. 26 The Life of the Horizontals: Patient Experiences with the Tubercle Bacillus
& the Sanatorium Rest Cure (Beth Linker)
Section The Cultural Authority of the New Experimental Sciences

Week X

Mar. 31 The Transformation of American Medical Education
Apr. 2 Women Enter the Medical Profession
Section Education, Gender, & Physician Identities

Week XI

Apr. 7 The Surgical Revolution & the Recovery of Therapeutic Nerve
Apr. 9 From Charitable Asylum to the Modern Hospital (Kari McLeod)
Section Technology and the Modern Hospital

Week XII

Apr. 14 The New Public Health: Health Promotion as Popular Theater
Apr. 16 The Human Subjects of Medical Experimentation
Section Tuskegee on Our Minds

Week XIII

Apr. 21 Sex, Sin, and Suffering: Risk & Disease in 20th-Century America
Apr. 23 Progress and Poverty: Modern Medicine & Its Critics
Section A Public Trust? The Power & Fragility of the American Medical Profession

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A survey of medical thought, practice, institutions, and practitioners from classical antiquity through the present. Changing concepts of health and disease in Europe and America explored in their social, cultural, economic, scientific, technological, and ethical contexts.

READINGS:

Assigned reading is drawn heavily from primary sources, that is original writings by the historical actors themselves rather than later accounts by historians. A short Course *Reader*, made up chiefly of early European primary sources, is available for purchase at York Copy, 284 York St. All other required readings are in a paperback anthology available at Bookhaven:

John Harley Warner and Janet A. Tighe, eds., *Major Problems in the History of American Medicine and Public Health* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2001).

Copies both of the Course *Reader* and of Warner & Tighe, *Major Problems*, are on reserve at Cross Campus Library. The amount of assigned reading is intentionally light so that you will have time to think about the issues raised by the readings and to prepare thoughtfully for discussion section meetings.

EVALUATION:

This is based on participation in the required discussion section meetings (10%), a midterm exam (20%), a short research paper (40%), and a final exam (30%). The midterm has been added this year in response to student request. It is in part a learning exercise: *if you do better on the final than on the midterm, the midterm grade will be dropped* and the Aexam@ portion of your course grade will be calculated using only your higher, final exam grade. Please note that Discussion Sections are an integral part of this course and often address readings and issues not covered in lectures.

PAPER:

A short (ca. 12-15 pages) research paper, which must make some use of primary sources, is due by Monday, April 21, in class or by 5:00 in the main History of Medicine office, L130 SHM. Papers may not be submitted by e-mail. A one paragraph summary of the paper you propose to write and a partial list of sources must be handed in by Wednesday, February 28. We will say more about the paper in section meetings, and hand out a list of suggested topics, well before that date. In preparing your papers, please draw upon us as a resource for coming up with a workable topic and scope, focusing your ideas, and identifying sources.

OFFICE HOURS:

John Warner's office is at the School of Medicine, 333 Cedar Street, L226-228 SHM (off the second floor balcony of the Historical Library of the Medical School Library); e-mail

john.warner@yale.edu, phone (785-4338). Teaching assistant office hours will be announced in Section.

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

[*Reader*=Course Reading Packet; *W&T*=Warner & Tighe]

WEEK I

INTRODUCTION

January 13

No assignment

HIPPOCRATIC MEDICINE

January 15

Reader: On Airs, Waters, and Places, in The Genuine Works of Hippocrates, translated by Francis Adams (London: Sydenham Society, 1849), vol. 1, pp. 190-198, 211-218

GREEK & EGYPTIAN MEDICAL TRADITIONS IN THE ROMAN WORLD

January 17

Reader: Galen, On the Medical Sects: For Beginners, in Greek Medicine, translated by Arthur J. Brock (London and Toronto: J.M. Dent and Sons, 1929), pp. 130-151

WEEK II

THE BLACK DEATH

January 22

No assignment

DISCUSSION SECTION: WHAT IS DISEASE?

W&T 17-24: James T. Patterson, Disease in the History of Medicine and Public Health

W&T 339-347: Elizabeth Lunbeck, Psychiatrists, the Hypersexual Female, and a New Medical Management of Morality in the Progressive Era

W&T 319-320: Questions Answered in a Leading Popular Journal about the Medical Status of Inebriety, 1911

W&T 504-507: A Psychiatrist Integrates Folk and Medical Healing Practices, 1975

W&T 507-512: Patient Audre Lorde Confronts Breast Cancer Treatment, 1980

W&T 520-524: Journalist Anne Fadiman Chronicles the Collision of Healing Cultures, 1997

WEEK III

MEDIEVAL MEDICINE: THE ARAB-ISLAMIC TRANSIT OF KNOWLEDGE

January 27

Reader: Rhazes [Abu Bakr Mohammed ibn Zakariya al-Razi, d. 925], *A Treatise on the Smallpox and Measles*, translated by W.A. Greenhill (London: Sydenham Society, 1848), pp. 24-46

THE RENAISSANCE OF ANATOMY

January 29

Reader: The Preface of Andreas Vesalius to His Book *De humani corporis fabrica*, in C.D. O'Malley, *Andreas Vesalius of Brussels 1514-1564* (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1964), pp. 317-324

William Harvey, *Anatomical Exercises Concerning the Motion of the Heart and Blood in Living Creatures* [1628], translated by Geoffrey Langdon Keynes (London: Nonesuch Press, 1928), pp. v-xi, 1-18

DISCUSSION SECTION: WAYS OF MEDICAL KNOWING--BODY & ENVIRONMENT AS OBJECTS OF KNOWLEDGE

Class readings from Weeks I & III

W&T 120-123: Todd L. Savitt, *Race, Human Experimentation, and Dissection in the Antebellum South*

W&T 96-97: A Medical Apprentice Writes from Rochester about a Cadaver ~~Resurrected~~ for Dissection, 1841

WEEK IV

MEDICAL THEORY, PRACTICE, & POLITICS IN THE 17TH CENTURY

February 3

Reader: The Works of Thomas Sydenham, M.D., translated by R.G. Latham (London: Sydenham Society, 1848), pp. 3-7, 11-27

THE SEARCH FOR ORDER IN 18TH-CENTURY MEDICINE

February 5

Reader: William Cullen, First Lines of the Practice of Physic (Dublin: Luke White, 1784), pp. I-viii, xii-xvii, xxi-xxii, 1-3

DISCUSSION SECTION: DISEASE & THE PUBLIC & HEALTH--THE CASE OF SMALLPOX

W&T 48-54: John B. Blake, *Smallpox Inoculation Foments Controversy in Boston*

W&T 30-33: Cotton Mather, a Boston Minister, *Proselytizes for Smallpox Inoculation*, 1772

W&T 33-34: William Douglass, a Boston Physician, *Decries the Dangerous Infatuation with Smallpox Inoculation*, 1722

W&T 35: A *Broadside Laments the Death of Fifty-Four in a Hartford Epidemic*, 1725

W&T 36-37: Zabdiel Boylston of Boston *Recounts His Experiences as the First Physician to Inoculate against Smallpox in the American Colonies*, 1726

W&T 40: Andrew Blackbird of the Ottawa Nation *Records a Story from Indian Oral Tradition about the Decimation of His People by Smallpox in the Early 1760s*, 1887

WEEK V

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION IN MEDICINE

February 10

Reader: P.J.G. Cabanis, On the Certainty of Medicine, translated by R. La Roche (Philadelphia: Robert Desilver, 1823), pp. 23-26, 31-33

Reader: R.T.H. Laennec, A Treatise on the Diseases of the Chest, translated by John Forbes (London T. And G. Underwood, 1821), pp. xxix-xxxv

Reader: P.Ch.A. Louis, Pathological Researches on Phthisis, translated by Charles Cowan

(London: C. Daly, 1835), pp. xliv-li

OPEN A FEW CORPSES ≠ THE SEARCH FOR THE SEAT OF DISEASE

February 12

Reader: John Baptist Morgagni, *The Seats and Causes of Diseases Investigated by Anatomy*, translated by Benjamin Alexander (London: A. Millar, 1769), pp. XI-XIII, XXIII-XXVI, xxix-xxxii, 366-370

Reader: J.N. Corvisart, *An Essay on the Organic Diseases and Lesions of the Heart and Great Vessels*, translated by Jacob Gates (Boston: Bradford and Read, 1812), pp. v-xiv, 15-26

Reader: Xavier Bichat, *General Anatomy, Applied to Physiology and Medicine*, translated by George Hayward (Boston: Richardson and Lord, 1822), vol. 1, pp. 49-60

Reader: Rudolf Virchow, *Cellular Pathology As Based upon Physiological and Pathological Histology* (London: John Churchill, 1860), pp. vii-xii, 1-10, 24-28

DISCUSSION SECTION: MORBID APPEARANCES & THE RISE OF PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY

Class readings from Week V

W&T 143-149: John Harley Warner, *Science, Healing, and the Character of the Physician*@

WEEK VI

MIDTERM

February 17

THE FORMATION OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL PROFESSION

February 19

W&T 80-90: Lisa Rosner, *The Philadelphia Medical Marketplace*@

W&T 108-114: Charles E. Rosenberg, *Belief and Ritual in Antebellum Medical Therapeutics*@

W&T 57-58: George Washington's Physicians Narrate His Final Illness and Death, 1799

W&T 63-64: A Medical Apprentice in Rural South Carolina Records Daily Life in His Diary, 1807

W&T 70-71: A Young Physician Struggles to Get into Practice in Ohio, 1822

W&T 94-96: Jacob Bigelow, a Harvard Medical Professor, Challenges the Physician's Power to Cure, 1835

W&T 97-99: An Eastern-Educated Physician in Indiana Advises Other Emigrants about the Distinctive Character of Diseases of the West, 1845

W&T 103-106: Samuel Cartwright, a Medical Professor and Racial Theorist, Reports to the Medical Association of Louisiana on the Diseases and Physical Peculiarities of the Negro Race, 1851

W&T 106-107: A Tennessee Physician Calls for the Cultivation of a Distinctive Southern Medical Literature, 1860

DISCUSSION SECTION: LIBRARY TOUR

WEEK VII

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE & CHALLENGES TO ORTHODOX AUTHORITY

February 24

W&T 28-30: Le Page du Pratz, a French Observer in Louisiana, Reports on Natchez Nation Healing Practices, 1720-1728

W&T 37-39: A Virginia Domestic Guide to the Diseases of the American Colonies Makes Every Man His Own Doctor, 1734

W&T 71-73: Samuel Thomson, a Botanic Healer, Decries the Regular Medical Profession as a Murderous Monopoly, 1822

W&T 127-128: A County Medical Society Bemoans the Prevalence of Quackery and Public Opinion Opposed to Legal Regulation of Medical Practice, 1843

W&T 129-130: Mary Gove Nichols, a Women's Health Reformer, Explains Why She Became a Water-Cure Practitioner, 1849

W&T 135-136: Domestic Practitioners of Hydropathy in the West Testify to Their Faith in Water Cure, 1854

SEXUALITY & THE VICTORIAN PHYSICIAN

February 26

W&T 140-142: Edward H. Clarke, an Eminent Boston Physician, Asserts that Biology Blocks the Higher Education of Women, 1873

DISCUSSION SECTION: ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE & ALTERNATIVE CULTURES

Class readings for Weeks VI and VII

WEEK VIII

DIRT=DISEASE=DESTITUTION: INDUSTRIAL & SANITARY REVOLUTIONS

March 3

W&T 161-164: John Griscom, a Physician and Reformer, Reports to the Municipal Government on the Sanitary Condition of the Laboring Population of New York, 1845

W&T 172-173: Medical Editor Steven Smith Preaches the Gospel of Sanitary Reform during Wartime, 1863

W&T 178-181: Sanitary Reformers Build upon Civil War Precedents to Clean Up Post-War Cities, 1865

LABORATORY MEDICINE & THE BIOMEDICAL MODEL

March 5

W&T 216-224: John Harley Warner, *Professional Optimism and Professional Dismay over the Coming of the New Scientific Medicine*

Reader: Claude Bernard, *An Introduction to the Study of Experimental Medicine* (1865), translated by Henry Copley Greene (New York: Macmillan, 1927), 1-26, 196-226

W&T 198-200: Henry P. Bowditch, a Recent Harvard Medical Graduate Studying in Europe, Finds in Experimental Laboratory Physiology the Path to a New Scientific Medicine, 1869

W&T 201-205: Clarence Blake, a Young Boston Physician Studying in Europe, Finds in Clinical Specialism the Path to a New Scientific Medicine, 1869

W&T 207-212: Daniel W. Cathell, M.D., Counsels Physicians on How to Succeed in Business, 1882

DISCUSSION SECTION: SANITARY SCIENCE & THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

W&T 181-189: Suellen Hoy, *American Wives and Mothers Join the Civil War Struggle in a Battle against Dirt and Disease*@

W&T 190-195: Bonnie E. Blustein, *Linking Science to the Pursuit of Efficiency in the Reforming of the Army Medical Corps during the Civil War*@

W&T 165-168: World Traveler Harriet Matineau Advises America on Keeping Troops Healthy during Wartime, 1861

W&T 168-172: Kate Cummings, an Alabama Nursing Volunteer, Writes in Her Journal about Conditions in the Confederate Army Hospital Service, 1862

W&T 173-176: Nursing Volunteer Louisa May Alcott Reports to Readers at Home about Her Experiences with the Union Army, 1863

>>>**SPRING BREAK**<<<

WEEK IX

BACTERIOMANIA: GERM THEORIES OF DISEASE

March 24

W&T 264-268: Alan M. Kraut, *Physicians and the New Immigration during the Progressive Era*@

W&T 268-273: Guenter B. Risse, *Bubonic Plague, Bacteriology, and Anti-Asian Racism in San Francisco, 1900*"

W&T 239-241: Charles V. Chapin, a Public Health Leader, Proclaims a New Relationship among *Dirt, Disease, and the Health Officer*,=1902

W&T 241-244: Terence V. Powderly, Commissioner-General of Immigration, Warns of the Menace to the Nation's Health of the New Immigrants, 1902

W&T 250-253: A Georgia Physician Addressing *the Negro Health Problem*=Warns that Germs Know No Color Line

THE LIFE OF THE HORIZONTALS: PATIENT EXPERIENCES WITH THE TUBERCLE BACILLUS & THE SANATORIUM REST CURE (Beth Linker)

March 26

W&T 237-239: A Professor of Hygiene Reports on the Success of Municipal Laws in Battling the American *Spitting Habit*,=1900

W&T 245-248: John E. Hunter, an African-American Physician, Admonishes Antituberculosis Activists to Recognize that Blacks and Whites Must Battle Germs as Their Common Enemy, 1905

DISCUSSION SECTION: THE CULTURAL AUTHORITY OF THE NEW EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES

Class readings from Week IX

W&T 379-386: Keith Wailoo, *The Power of Genetic Testing in a Conflicted Society*

W&T 362-365: Medical Educator Francis Peabody Cautions against Blind Faith in the Clinical Authority of the Laboratory, 1922

W&T 366-367: Prominent African American Anatomy Professor Montagu Cobb Questions the Assumptions of a Leading Textbook about the Biology of Race, 1942

WEEK X

THE TRANSFORMATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL EDUCATION

March 31

W&T 298-303: Ronald L. Numbers, *Physicians, Community, and the Qualified Ascent of the American Medical Profession*

W&T 309-315: Janet A. Tighe, *A Lesson in the Political Economics of Medical Education*

W&T 277-283: Educational Reformer Abraham Flexner Writes a Muckraking Report on Medical Schools, 1910

W&T 283-286: Black Woman Physician Isabella Vandervall Laments the Racial and Gender Discrimination in the Program for Reforming Medical Education, 1917

W&T 290-292: Reform Committee Led by Josephine Goldmark Probes Nursing Education, 1923

W&T 292-297: Rockefeller Foundation Reacts to a Growing Concern that Medical Education Reform Has Worsened Doctor Shortages in Rural America, 1924

WOMEN ENTER THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

April 2

W&T 73-80: Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, *The Medical Challenge to Midwifery*

*W&T 149-157: Regina Markell Morantz-Sanchez, *Science, Health Reform, and the Woman Physician*@*

W&T 58-60: Elizabeth Drinker, a Philadelphia Quaker, Recounts in Her Diary the Physician-Attended Birth of Her Daughter's Sixth Child, 1799

W&T 67-69: Walter Channing, a Harvard Medical Professor, Warns of the Dangers of Women Practicing Midwifery, 1820

W&T 131-133: A New York State Doctor Rails to His Professional Brethren against the Education of Women as Physicians, 1850

W&T 136-140: Elizabeth and Emily Blackwell, Pioneer Women Physicians, Extoll the Woman Physician as the "Connecting Link" between Women's Health Reform and the Medical Profession, 1859

W&T 516-520: Perri Klass, a Physician and Writer, Ponders the Feminization of the Medical Profession, 1992

DISCUSSION SECTION: EDUCATION, GENDER, & PHYSICIAN IDENTITIES

Class readings from Week X

WEEK XI

THE SURGICAL REVOLUTION & THE RECOVERY OF THERAPEUTIC NERVE

April 7

*W&T 114-119: Martin S. Pernick, *Pain, the Calculus of Suffering, and Antebellum Surgery*@*

*W&T 224-232: Bert Hansen, *Popular Optimism about the Promise of the New Scientific Medicine: The Case of Rabies Vaccine*@*

W&T 93-94: A New York Medical Student Recounts in His Diary His Emotional Responses to Surgery, 1828

W&T 101-102: A Yale Medical Student Decries the Use of Anesthesia in Childbirth, 1848

W&T 205-207: Roberts Bartholow, a Philadelphia Medical Professor, Celebrates Experimental Medicine and the Ongoing Therapeutic Revolution, 1879

W&T 213-216: New York Newspaper Launches Fundraising Campaign for "Miraculous" New

Diphtheria Cure, 1894

FROM THE CHARITABLE ASYLUM TO THE MODERN HOSPITAL (Kari McLeod)

April 9

W&T 9-16: Charles E. Rosenberg, *Medicine's Institutional History and Its Policy Implications*@

W&T 368-372: Joel D. Howell, *Making Machines Clinically Useful in the Modern Hospital*@

W&T 485-489: Rosemary Stevens, *Medicare and the Transformation of the Medical Economy*@

W&T 64-67: James Jackson and John C. Warren, *Leading Boston Doctors, Solicit Support for Founding the Massachusetts General Hospital, 1810*

W&T 99-101: Reformer Dorothea Dix Calls on Tennessee Legislators to Turn State Insane Asylum into a Curative Hospital, 1847

W&T 351-352: Physician Charles L. Leonard Extolls the Diagnostic Virtues of the New X-ray Technology, 1897

W&T 352-354: Editor of Leading Medical Journal Urges Precautionary X-ray Examinations, 1912

W&T 286-289: The American College of Surgeons Urges Standards for Hospital Efficiency and Physician Accountability, 1918

W&T 361: Advertisement Insists That for a Hospital to Refuse to Buy Its Pulmotor Is Tantamount to Malpractice, 1919

DISCUSSION SECTION: TECHNOLOGY & THE MODERN HOSPITAL

Class readings from week XI

WEEK XII

THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH: HEALTH PROMOTION AS POPULAR THEATER

April 14

W&T 257-264: Nancy J. Tomes, *Germ Theory, Public Health Education, and the Moralization of Behavior in the Antituberculosis Crusade*@

W&T 248-249: Advertising Health, the National Association for the Prevention and Study of Tuberculosis Promotes Antituberculosis Billboards, 1910

W&T 253-255: The Modern Health Crusade Mobilizes Children for Health Reform, 1918

THE HUMAN SUBJECTS OF MEDICAL EXPERIMENTATION

April 16

W&T 416-422: Susan E. Lederer, *The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment and the Conventions and Practice of Biomedical Research*@

W&T 390-392: Public Health Service Physicians Publish Their Observations of Untreated Syphilis in a Population of African American Men in Macon County, Alabama, 1936

W&T 393: A Tuskegee Doctor in the Field Requests Research Advice from the Public Health Service Office in Washington, D.C., 1939

W&T 400-403: A Leading Research Scientist Embraces the Nuremberg Code as a Guide to Ethical Practice in an Age of Human Experimentation, 1953

W&T 403-405: Public Health Service Physicians Praise Thirty Years of Government-Sponsored Human Subject Research in the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, 1964

W&T 405-406: A Private Physician Raises Questions That Go Unanswered about the Morality of the Tuskegee Experiment, 1965

W&T 406-408: A Physician-Historian-Activist Explores the Legacy of Distrust=Fostered by the Tuskegee Study, 1993

DISCUSSION SECTION: TUSKEGEE ON OUR MINDS

Class readings from Week XII

WEEK XIII

SEX, SIN, & SUFFERING: RISK & DISEASE IN 20TH-CENTURY AMERICA

April 21

W&T 532-538: Allan M. Brandt, *Risk, Behavior, and Disease: Who Is Responsible for Keeping Americans Healthy?*@

W&T 444-450: Susan E. Lederer and John Parascandola, *Screening Syphilis: Hollywood, the Public Health Service, and the Fight against Venereal Disease*@

W&T 489-498: Amy Sue Bix, *Breast Cancer and AIDS Activism Revolutionize Health Policies*@

W&T 431-435: Science Writer Paul de Kruif and Surgeon General Thomas Parran Join Forces to Admonish Women about the Dangers of Venereal Disease, 1937

W&T 467-468: Public Health Advocates Plead for AIDS Awareness, 1980s

W&T 481-484: Surgeon General C. Everett Koop Remembers the Early Days of AIDS, 1995

PROGRESS AND POVERTY: MODERN MEDICINE & ITS CRITICS

April 23

W&T 524-531: David J. Rothman, *The Doctor As Stranger: Medicine and Public Distrust*

W&T 501-504: Feminists Reclaim Women's Health Care, 1971

W&T 461-466: Medical Editor Warns about the New Medical-Industrial Complex, 1980

W&T 469-474: President Clinton Calls for a Health Security Act, 1993

W&T 474-477: Journalist Laurie Abraham Captures the Human Drama of Medicare, 1993

DISCUSSION SECTION: A PUBLIC TRUST? THE POWER & FRAGILITY OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL PROFESSION

Class readings from Week XIII